lands were not united, and considering the centuries of Spanish domination which gave little chance for experience in administration. It would be expecting too much of a people to have them learn all the bitter lessons of democracy in two or three decades. But the growth of democratic thought has been rapidly fostered through the schools, the ballot, and actual experience in the art of government. That democracy in the Philippines may be different from democracy in the United States need not necessarily be taken as a legitimate criticism, for conditions in the two countries are radically different.

One sterling factor in Philippine culture is the nature of the Filipino himself and the importance of the Filipino family in community life. Law-abiding, contented, and with many commendable traits, the Filipino is very much attached to his family and his home. No better basis for democracy or civilization could be found than this laudable characteristic.

The universal thirst for education indicates that culture should not retrograde but should on the contrary develop in many ways. Unfortunately the Islands have no native language of national diversification, and hence it has been necessary to make English the common language. But the Philippines has a higher standard of literacy than many nations. The exact percentage of literacy to illiteracy has been variously estimated, but according to the Census of 1918, fifty per cent of the population of over ten years of age were literate.

The Philippines is the only Christian nation in the Orient.

The unifying effect of religion, its effort to eradicate vices, and its tendency to raise the standard of morality are factors that cannot be overlooked in estimating Philippine culture.

Wide differences of opinion have existed relative to the advisability of granting the Philippines independence, but even the most stubborn opponents of independence concede that it was but meet and proper for the Filipinos to accen-